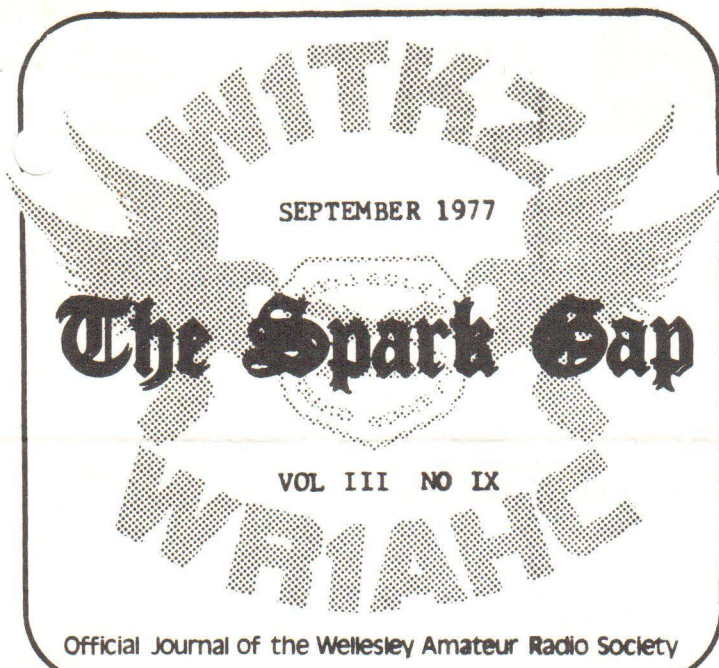


9/77



to North Carolina and "Hoppy" Hopkins, WALUMW, was transferred by his company to Dallas, Texas. We want to thank each of you for your contributions to the club while you were with us and hope you carry lots of good memories of your association here. Perhaps we will QSO one day with either of you and GOOD LUCK in your new surroundings.

George Young, WAIYAU, has graduated from Framingham State College with his B.A. and is a researcher for the Wellesley Historical Society.

Both Gordon Kingsley, WAITAM, and Scott Nacey, WAIYOJ, have been counselling up to Casco Bay, Maine for the summer.

Also, Allan Kuong, WALSCS, has been home from the Naval Academy. He has two more years to go before graduating and has been active on 2 meters locally while at home.

FIELD DAY 1977:

Once again we went down to Fort Strong on Long Island in Boston Harbor to conduct this activity and it was another of the good times shared by those who participated.

This year we had the use of the generator which was now mounted on a trailer and is capable of delivering 3500 watts of power. It proved quite satisfactory for the job with power to spare.

We did encounter an early problem en-route to the site though. On Rte. 128 we lost one of the wheels of the trailer but fortunately were able to repair it and go on our way. By some oversight, we had had the tires remounted and in putting the wheels back on, someone failed to tighten the lugs properly but lady luck was with us as no one was hurt during this incident. After this 2 hour delay, we continued on our way, arriving at the site in late afternoon where we immediately got to the task of erecting the VHF Quagi Array on a 30° mast. With a 2 meter band opening, we were able to work NY, NH and other states. The tribander TA-33 didn't go up until near midnight when we quit until the next day. On Saturday, June 25th, we raised the novice multiband dipole, put up a 400-500' long-wire. It was a good 2 hour job and

Well guys, it is time that we all get our gears meshed again and going. We have another exciting season in front of us.

Over the summer months the club participated in Field Day, the Esplanade Concert the first outing of the Middlesex and Wellesley clubs and also held one meeting on the third Thursday in July. I mention the latter because normally we don't have any meetings in July or August, but because of the way the club has grown, a meeting was deemed necessary to keep those who attended, abreast of the latest happenings. We hope, in this edition, to report on each activity singularly. Chris Wiles successfully guided another novice class to its completion during the summer and it is a dedication like that, that has made our club what it is. We hope in the season ahead, to have more club activities and more individual participation, so please don't crawl into the old woodwork.

We also had some upgrading of licenses and would like to mention them here. First of all, John Chapman, WALWER, Matt Vartanian, WALWDF, Harry Burtman, WALANM, and Jim Murphy, WB1BUR, have passed their general class examinations. Kevin Kelly, WAIYHV, got his Advanced ticket and Mike Adlerstein, ex-WALTUN is now K1FB. We may have more people who have upgraded their tickets but this is all that has informed the club. A hearty WELL DONE to all and our Congratulations.

We have also lost a couple more fellows too, Bob Arnold, WD4AOH, who used to do the PROFILE column, was transferred down

MEETINGS THIS MONTH: _____

September 15, 1977 at 7:30 PM

Intermediate Bldg., Wellesley Hills, Mass.

lots of mosquito bites to prove it. At 1300 hours all systems were go and we had a briefing session as to the rules and regulations of the field day. At 1400 we were operating FD 77.

Chief chef and bottle washer was Dick Paret, W1ZLQ, who served Saturday nite supper of London Broil, corn on the cob, and various 'spirits' to wash it down. (This is roughing it?). All the cooking was done on an electric stove with the power coming from the one generator we mentioned previously. Sunday breakfast was scrumptious pancakes, well browned, to delight the taste of any epicure. No one went hungry on this deal.

The operation went along smoothly but Sunday morning did provide a few showers which slowed down operations a little but not entirely, as we moved operations to the inside of the old fort. We did have a photographer from the Heral American visit us Sunday afternoon where he took a picture which appeared in their paper the next day. He, incidentally, was also a ham but had not got on the air in years. He was impressed with the 2 meter operation and said he would look further into it. So, in addition to getting contacts from around the country, we also may have activated a dormant ham.

Operations were ceased at 1400 hours on Sunday afternoon where we took down the antennas, packed our gear and wearily headed home, tired but happy.

Those participating were Roger Wilmarth, W1RSV, Chris Wiles, W1RGA, Don Chesley, W1HVS, John McReynolds, W1WDE, Farrell Woods, W1ELQ, Bill Downing, W1POY, Jim Hatherley, W1TBY, Glenn Brodie, W1BVN, Nina Brodie, W1ECJ, Eric Rasmussen, W1WDD, Dick Paret, W1ZLQ, Peter Foley, W1WDJ, Chad Johnson, W1YHT, Kevin Kelly, W1YHV, C.J. MacDonald, W1BUM, Dick Magnanti, W1BUQ, Cheryl Chesley, W1TAL, Russ Desjourdy, W1VWG, Richard Nichols, W1ADI, Mauricio Puente, W1DZX, Tim McNamara, W1YHU, Bernie May, and John McGlinchey.

For the records, the club amassed a total of 1922 points for this event. Chris Wiles took pictures of the operation which we hope to have put together for a presentation at one of the club meetings in the near future. We hope to see you all again at the next field day '78'



ACTIVITIES ≡

We've been pretty lucky in Wellesley in recent years. We've never really had to mobilize our emergency communications capability for a major emergency. A large part of that luck is, no doubt, due to our geographical location. We're not in an area prone to tornadoes or floods, the kinds of natural disasters that can easily raise havoc with conventional communications.

A few times we've been activated for hurricanes, but what about the totally unexpected? The kind of emergency that strikes with virtually no warning, or the kind of thing you thought could never happen here? The May snow storm was certainly unexpected. With all the downed wires, there was the potential for serious communication problems, and the recent New York City blackout, had it spread to our area, could have caused real trouble too.

An article in the August issue of QST gives a fine example of hams in Kentucky who were ready for the totally unexpected, that tragic nightclub fire which claimed 161 lives. Something like that could happen here. Maybe it would be a fire in a movie theater, or the explosion of a gas line or electrical substation, but it could happen.

That's why we're breathing new life into the ARES operation. ARES stands for Amateur Radio Emergency Service, which used to be known as AREC (Amateur Radio Emergency Corps). We're asking all interested club members to submit ARES applications. Many of you already have the basic membership card and mobile unit identification.

The ARES and NTS (National Traffic System), make up the ARPSC (Amateur Radio Public Service Corps). It's a lot of initials, but in a major disaster which leaves an area cut off from the rest of the world, the NTS works in conjunction with the ARES to get vital messages out to those who are in a position to furnish help.

Of course, public service means a lot more than just emergency communications. Whether it be providing communications for a parade or a bike-a-thon, public service is a big part of what Ham Radio is all about. It's right there in Part

C.D. Activities.....Cont'd

97 of the FCC rules and regulations as the first principle listed under the "Basis and Purpose" of amateur operation.

But, like just about everything else, it doesn't work if everybody leaves to the 'other guy'.

The League has just updated and revised, their booklet which spells out all phases of "Public Service Communications", which just happens to be the title. If you'd like a copy, you can write to the ARRL, or ask me for one.

I'm coming up with some activities, other than the once a year SET (Simulated Emergency Test), to let us have some fun, and, at the same time, be prepared.

But, what about you? What do you think about the need for emergency communications readiness? And what ideas do you have for activities? Your thoughts will be appreciated.

As in all our club activities, the watchword is participation, so sign up and sound off, and let's get the public service ball really rolling. Again, DON'T LEAVE IT TO "THE OTHER GUY".

73. John Turrell, W1ZLO,
Emergency Coordinator for Wellesley

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Annual New England ARRL Convention is almost upon us. This year it will be in Hartford, Ct., and those of you who are ARRL members, have gotten your pamphlet telling you about it. If you can possibly make it, please do, because this gives you another insight to what happens inside Ham radio with many seminars on all aspects of this hobby plus many booths by dealers who show off the latest wares in the ham radio business. Plus, you get to have a lot of eyeballing done with other hams you may have worked around the bands. The date is Sept. 24 and 25 at the Sheraton-Hartford Hotel on Trumbull Street at the Civic Center Plaza. Here you can take off and visit the ARRL headquarters or even take an upgrading exam at the FCC booth. (But, you must make your application in advance if you plan to take an exam here.) Send your FCC form 610

John Sullivan, W1HHR, Whitney Rd., Columbia, Ct. 06237 no later than Sept. 1st.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

NR 656 July 7, 1977 BT Instructors of amateur radio classes can obtain complete teaching guides and student materials without charge from the ARRL Club and Training Department. Novice materials are available now and General level materials will be available soon. For details, send a SASE to ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington Ct. 06111.

NR 662 August 8, 1977 BT The FCC's shortage of amateur license forms announced in last week's Official Bulletin is now over. New license forms were received at the FCC last week, and licenses are now being printed and mailed to those applicants whose licenses were delayed due to the shortage. AR

NR 659 July 21, 1977 BT The governments of Egypt and Israel have authorized amateur radio stations W7FPX/SU and K4SQT/SU at the Sinai Field Mission to conduct third party traffic with United States amateur radio stations, effective immediately. All third part traffic must be in accordance with Section 97.114 of the FCC's rules as usual.

NR 658 July 21, 1977 BT FCC has opened up the block of calls AA1AA through AA0ZZ for extra class licensees, to be assigned in districts where there are no longer any 1 X 2 calls available, currently only in the 4th and 6th call areas. This is effective July 29, 1977. If needed in the future prefixes in the block AB through AL will be made available.

NR 660 July 23, 1977 BT The ARRL Board of Directors at its 2nd meeting in Hartford Ct., on July 21 and 22, 1977, approved an approach for the League's response to the 5th notice of inquiry on Docket 20271, The WARC proceeding which will determine the U.S. position on future frequency allocation. A full time staff coordinator for Washington ARRL activities was approved. The board endorsed retention of the novice program and the present novice examination level and the General Counsel was instructed to petition FCC to extend the 80 mtr novice band to cover 3675 to 3750 Khz. The Board renewed its request for increased voice segments already on file in comments on Docket 20282. An ARRL Hall of Fame will be established under guidelines to be drawn up by the Headquarters Awards Committee. The ARRL request to authorize

The Spark Gap

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, JAMES W. HATHERLEY

THE "SPARK GAP" IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY. ITS SOLE PURPOSE IS TO KEEP ITS MEMBERS ABBREAST OF CURRENT HAPPENINGS, F.C.C. RULES & REGULATIONS CHANGES AND TO LIST EQUIPMENT OFFERED FOR SALE OR TRADE BY MEMBERS. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SPARK GAP AND MAY SEND THEIR ARTICLES (TYPEWRITTEN IF POSSIBLE) TO THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OR TO THE CLUB ADDRESS.

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF AMATEUR RADIO THROUGH INSTRUCTION, FELLOWSHIP, DEMONSTRATION AND ENCOURAGED PARTICIPATION. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY-\$5.00. CLUB YEAR RUNS FROM SEPTEMBER 1 - JUNE 30. AMATEUR NOVICE AND GENERAL CLASSES ARE CONDUCTED REGULARLY AT NO COST. TO ENROLL IN A CLASS OR GAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY IN GENERAL, WRITE THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, 324 WASHINGTON STREET WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS 02181



BULLETINSCONT'D

Technician licensees on any part of 50 and 144 MHZ bands will be renewed. A four part program for league representation by the President, First Vice President, General Manager and General Counsel to Congressional committees was adopted. A group insurance program for League members on a voluntary participations basis was approved. Matters committed to committee study include a program to encourage amateur microwave activity, confirmation requirements for a single mode DXCC, rules for providing availability of ARRL member mailing lists, categories of club contest participation, WAS mileage requirements, zero base budgeting of funds authorized by the Board of Directors and ARRL band plans for 50 Mhz and above. Other actions included preparation of lists of stolen gear to be made available on request to amateurs and dealers for a trial period of one year; Endorsement of a proposal to establish a Code of Ethics for advertisers; Encouragement of expansion of amateur examination opportunities at conventions and hamfests; Authorization of a request for special

BULLETINS....CONT'D

FCC temporary authorization for a study of narrow bandwidth television on ten meters; Instruction to the General Manager to provide a legal guide for antenna problems; provision of more information in QST on low priced gear for novices; Renewal of efforts to permit use of ASCII by amateurs; Urging of favorable FCC action on providing Spanish language amateur exams; Publication of a QST article on Woman's Image in amateur radio; Increase auto travel rate to 17 cents per mile; Request for more flexible hours for FCC amateur exams; Dissemination to members of complete information on RFI legislation. Commendations were made of former Director Albright for the EC Workbook and of the DX Advisory Committee for its exhaustive survey. The proposal to start DXCC over in 1980 was defeated. Complete minutes will be printed in September QST. AR

ELECTRONIC EXCHANGE

For Sale: NC300 receiver. Very good condition with manual. 10 through 160 meters with provisions for 2 and 6 meters Am-CW-SSB. Great for novice. \$125.00. Call Frank Heller, W1HVV 648-1951.

For Sale: DX60B transmitter with an HR10 receiver, both in excellent condition. \$220.00. Joe Ring W1WTM, at 237-2320.

NEED UHF converter for TV. call Dick Weissel, W1HRV at 655-2366.

LOOKING for Heath HX-20 or HX-30, 2 or 6 meter sideband excitors, Clegg Venus or Zeus transmitters, or any CHEAP 2 or 6 meter transmitting converters (will even consider homebrew efforts). Call or write Bill Downing, W1PQY, 235-4484.

WANTED: Club member who is a commercial VHF two-way radio technician, for counsel. Call Bill Downing, W1PQY, 235-4484

ED NOTE: this column is open to anyone wanting to sell or buy. Just send your request to the Spark Gap Editor for printing.

NEW CLUB MEMBERS

It is always nice to welcome new people to the club and at this time we want you to meet, Joe Fitzpatrick, WB1ECF, Pete Spotts, WB1BUF, Madeline and Larry Heine, Les Spaulding WA1ZTO and Ted Robertson, WB1ECL. If you folks have any questions, opinions to give, or advice you may seek, feel free to ask anyone and we will be happy to help you in any way we can. This is your club and we want you to make use of it to the fullest extent.

CLEARING THE AIR

Because of the way the club is growing we have tried to get more people to become active in club activities. Also, according to the by-laws, a person holding a position on the Executive Committee cannot hold down two jobs. Since I am the club treasurer and also editor of the Spark Gap, the need for a new editor is necessary to comply with the by-laws. If anyone is in a position to accept this challenge, contact Jim Hatherley WA1BY for particulars.

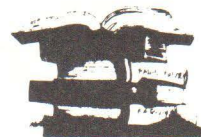
At a recent planning session of the executive board, it was discussed to re-open the Novice Net on 21,120 Khz in order to allow the novices room to make their first qso's and familiarize themselves with the art of traffic handling. Dates and times are still to be worked out but it is hoped to have a code practice session on the same frequency first and followed by the novice net. For some of you older fellows, perhaps you would like to brush up on your traffic handling as this club is active up at the Natick Mall and this net could help you brush up on your proficiency. More on this later as definite times and dates are available.

The New England Division of the ARRL is instituting a N.E. Director's Award for Public Relations efforts by the leagues affiliated clubs and individual members.

A separate award will be given to a league affiliated club for the newsletter judged to be best in the division. The size of the club will be taken into account when considering candidates for recognition. We have entered the Spark Gap into this competition.

So, the three awards will be announced at the upcoming Convention in Hartford and we are hoping we can give the W.A.R.S. more recognition so root for us guys.

education corner



Novice classes will begin on September 14th. Flyers have been distributed around the area and the response is indicative of another good class.

We would like to start a General class about the same time, give or take a day or two, but instructors are needed. If anyone is interested in teaching either the novice or the general classes, please get in touch with Chris Wiles, WA1RGA or Bill Downing, WA1PQY. This is a good opportunity to give of your talents and as previous instructors of these classes have said, it helps them sharpen up their own skills as well, and is a tremendous contribution to the success of this club and of ham radio in general.

Articles for the TEK-TOK portion of the Gap are needed so if you have anything that may be helpful, please don't keep it to yourself. Thanks.

Harmonics About Town



On June 25th members of both the Middlesex and Wellesley clubs met at a park in Newton to have their first picnic ever. It was a beautiful day and the old charcoal pits were going full speed ahead. After a lunch we had a softball game and it turned out to be a classic. Middlesex won in the last of the last inning 13-12 but it was a lot of fun. Paul Burkhart did a fine job umpiring behind the plate and as he so aptly put it, "I call them like I don't see them". Nina Brodie and Cheryl Chesley were there to show us that they too, can hit the ball pretty well. Many of us however, were stiff for four or five days later. There were quite a number of Wellesley people at the picnic and to name some would be an injustice to those I would overlook so let's just say, all who came had an enjoyable day.

If you noticed the nice job the fellows did in rebuilding the generator that was in the basement of the club, you will note that it is now mounted on a trailer for better mobility. That 8 fuse panel for the power cables was donated to us by the Reynolds Electric Co. of Wellesley and we wish to publicly thank them for their kindness.

RECENT DRAMA ON THE HIGH SEAS happened recently, so in case you haven't heard about it, here is another instance when hams came into their own.

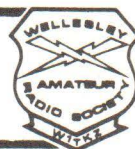
On July 17th at 0420 local time, a MAYDAY was picked up on 14,250 khz by a ham in Georgia, Chris Janker, WD4CPK. He alerted the authorities but the Miami Coast Guard who received the call, could not copy the distressed vessel that said it was off the coast of Honduras in Central America. They then alerted the CG stations along the Eastern Seaboard and the Boston CG reported light copy on the vessel, an ex-mine sweeper named the Rhinoceros, HP3422. She had sprung a leak in her keel and was taking on water faster than the pumps could discharge it. At this point, a ham in Salisbury, Ma. who had a 135 foot tower was able to copy the vessel and acted as relay to the Boston CG. As time passed, communications again got spotty when a Braniff commercial airliner at 35,000 feet enroute from South America acted as relay between the ship and the Boston CG. He circled the area for 40 minutes before leaving for Miami. At this time conditions improved enough for the Portsmouth, Va. CG to get copy on him and also activated the CG stations in Puerto Rico and Miami to take radio direction bearings on the Rhinoceros. Two Air Force search planes were dispatched to the area in the meanwhile. As the water level rose in the ship, all power was gone except for the battery operated ham rig. The skipper used no ham call, only the numbers of his vessel, HP3422. Merchant ships in the area were also called upon by the CG to help in the search and it was all happening on the 14,250 khz frequency. Finally, as the ship was about to literally sink, (the water in the hold had risen almost flush to the main deck), the plane, in rain squally weather, located the Rhinoceros and dropped a life raft and survival equipment to the ship. This took two passes by the plane before accomplishing this feat. Anyway, all 11 men aboard the ship were able to get off and eventually rescued. From the initial Mayday call to the conclusion, about 9 hours had passed by. It was an interesting drama that unfolded where you heard just about every type of media in the operation from Coast Guard, to merchant Marine, to commercial airlines, spanish translating ham stations as well as English speaking ones, plus the Air Force, all in

Drama on the high seas cont'd

one thought, Save the people in peril.

Chris Janker, the ham who picked up the original Mayday, is a 17 year old exchange student from Germany and had to leave for his homeland a few days later, but what an experience he had to top off his American visit. In the moments following the conclusion of the rescue, newsmen came on the frequency to interview Chris about how the story came about. Needless to say, he was quite excited about his role in it. But, all is well that ends well, and ham radio had a lot to do with making it so.

QSY PLEASE,
de WITKZ



4th OF JULY AT THE ESPLANADE:.

Ham radio made another public service contribution by supplying the communications for this combination Concert/Firework Event. Using 2 meter walkies our hams were right on the job helping wherever they could and the operation went along quite smoothly and one couldn't help but take off their hats to those guys who gave of their time and talents to make it happen. Our club members were Chad Johnson, W1YHT, Allan Kuong, W1SCS and Dick Magnanti, W1BUQ. Bob Salow, W1IDA of the Middlesex club was the control operator and also headed up the operation. Well Done guys.

Dues Dues Dues...

Did you get the letter mailed you about the Dues for the 1977/78 year? Sadly, into every life a little rain must fall and your early remittance will be appreciated.

For the records, if there are more than one family member in the club, additional members may join the club for a charge of \$2.00 per member. We will only, however, mail one copy of the SPARK GAP to that address. Regular individual membership is \$5.00 per year running from Sept. 1, 1977 to August 31, 1978.

Thank you.

Jim Hatherley W1TBY
Treasurer, W.A.R.S.

profiles

Since this is the first PROFILE of the new season, I thought it would be fitting to do a story on Walter Lenk, K1YTY.

Walt's interest in amateur radio began in the 1930's at the age of 10 when one day he visited his cousin who was building radio equipment. Now, all he can remember from the visit was a series of large cabinets, giant sized tubes, and all sorts of "strange gadgets". His cousin never got the amateur license for the 1930's but Walt got on the air about 28 years later.

Walt was born in Boston June 26, 1924. He graduated from Belmont High School in the class of 1942. Upon graduation, Walt went into the Army Engineer Corps where he served in the European theater from 9/43 to 5/46. After bouncing about after the war he attended Bates College and graduated in the class of 1949. He went on to Boston University, graduating in 1954 and majored in Social Science and earned his Masters degree in this field. From here he went to work with the Veterans Administration where he is a medical social work

During the spring of 1962, Walt began studying for the novice license. His greatest problem was electronic theory. Code is just like learning to type, and fortunately, he had learned typing in college. One day he went to Don Scully, W1HRY's home for the novice test and his first CQ as a novice was on 10/21/62. (Do you remember your first QSO?), on 7182 Mhz. Walt found 'Elmer's' in Al Edmunds, then KN1VZJ Brad Rohrer, K1CTK and Al Graf, W1OQP who helped him along. Back in those days you had to go for a higher license real fast, so he decided to "go for broke". and got his General class ticket on the first try. As it turned out, his general was issued on his birthday and what a birthday gift that must have been.

As a novice Walt joined the Wellesley ARS. As a member he became active as the club secretary which he held for about 5 years and at the same time did other tasks around the club. He has, for many years, submitted regular items to the Wellesley Wmsman about the Society's activities. From the beginning, Walt recognized the need for close affiliation with the Wellesley Civil Defense, and has been very

PROFILES....Cont'd.

active in this field on behalf of the club such as in 1968 when he joined the Sunday morning C.D. radio net. He faithfully kept up this activity until recently when the net became inactive due to the coming of 2 meter FM. On 4/25/72 he also began a Tuesday evening 2 meter AM AREC net for those unable to check into the Sunday session. He has worked hand in hand with the town's C.D. Coordinators in order to provide the town with the best emergency coverage available at the time. For the past 9 years they have provided radio coverage for the town's Veterans Day Parade, and since 1971 have added the Recreational Departments Annual Road Race to their list. Walt would like other town departments and private agencies to take advantage of the club's excellent communication system.

From 1962 to 1967 Walt operated exclusively on the low bands, mostly on CW and AM and gradually worked up to VHF. His first contact on 6 meters was in April of 67 and his first 2 meter contact was on the 34/94 repeater in January 1970. Walt, during the Vietnam war, took the Air Force MARS course and helped run traffic for 3 years on 6 meters. Over the years Walt has used power from 10 to 350 watts and doesn't particularly like beams or towers because it is too easy to get a contact by this method but instead, likes to experiment with verticals, dipoles and inverted vees. He has never been on 80 or 160 meters, the back yard being not big enough for antennas.

Walt, after operating mainly on 2 mtrs for a few years is now building a HW101 so he can get back on 10, 15 and 20 meters CW and hopes to experiment with a trap dipole inside his attic. Guess CW is still biting at Walt.

Walt is also interested in photography and at times, has taken some good shots of the Civil Defense activities.

Walt is married to Connie and they have 2 children, Peter, age 23 who is at the BU School of Engineering, and Susan age 20, who just got out of Dean Junior College and is looking for a suitable job to follow her career. The Lenk's also have a summer cottage in Chatham where he has a lot of fun working the Cape repeaters.

Looking back at his 15 years as an amateur, he still feels that he enjoyed CW

PROFILES..... Cont'd.

beat and that the world of amateur radio has a lot to offer, because there are so many interests and activities within the amateur frequencies. Walt is darned glad he made the effort in 1962 to join the amateur fraternity. We are too.

"timeout!"

By Mike Adlerstein, K1FB

Those of us who live on 96-36 over the summer, often notice strange doings. It's not unusual to hear phantom, one sided, QSO's and very weak signals keying the repeater. Also, you may be surprised by timing out the repeater even though you've only been transmitting a short time!

All of these phenomena are symptoms of summertime band openings involving users of the 96-36 machine in Newport, R.I. Although we very seldom hear the R.I. repeater, the receiver in the Newton machine is quite sensitive and picks up users of the R.I. machine. These users are often either running excessive power or are located in the fringe area between Newton and Newport, R.I. Band conditions can aggravate the problem. These users often know they are keying the Newton machine because the squelch tail of the two machines last different lengths of time. Thus, when the Newport machine drops out after a transmission which has keyed both machines, the Newport user can then hear the Newton tail drop. I have observed that most operators in R.I. then, either reduce power or go QRT.

The practical consequences for users of our repeater are that if a Newport signal is keying the Newton repeater, you may transmit over it provided the Newport signal stops momentarily to reset the Newton timer. If you did not hear the pause, you may transmit but you'll not know just when the repeater will time out, leaving you talking to yourself. 73, Mike, K1FB.

Hereabouts...

Just under the wire we have learned of Mike Taricano, W1WWI is now a general and Dave Smith, ex-W1AKL is now K1BSO, his former call he had in 1968. Both are on 2 meters and Mike with his Drake twins, does his share of DXing, on the low bands.

Just a reminder, in our recent letter regarding dues, we also asked you to fill out the enclosed application blank so we could upgrade our records. We also asked you to enclose a picture of yourself for future use in articles in the Spark Gap. If you have failed to do this, your cooperation will be appreciated. Additional applications are available at the club or from Bill Downing, W1PQY.

FOR SALE--FOR SALE--FOR SALE

DRAKE 2-MT Q1 XETR. 80-10 meters
100 watts plus out, with antenna
change-over relay, 10' 4" x 12" incl.
Excellent Cond. - \$990
Jim (W1LAVC) call 964-4427

E2

The Spark Gap



**WELLESLEY
AMATEUR RADIO
SOCIETY**

324 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts 02181



D WAITUH ADVANCED
NELS ANDERSON
17 DEAN ST